

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 0120-027

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Richard C. PHELPS et al.) Group Art Unit: 2111
Application No.: 10/827,356) Examiner: Unassigned
Filed: April 20, 2004) Confirmation No.: 2594
For: APPARATUS FOR USE IN A)
COMPUTER SYSTEM)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 and the waiver specified in United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notices of 05 August 2003, copies of U.S. patents, U.S. patent application publications, and copending applications filed on or after June 30, 2003 need not be submitted.


In addition to the information provided on the attached PTO/SB/08, also submitted herewith is a copy of a PCT Search Report issued in connection with International Application No. PCT/GB99/03089, mailed June 21, 2000 and a Search Report issued in connection with counterpart Great Britain Application No. GB 9820430.8, mailed March 30, 1999.

I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information listed on the attached PTO/SB-08 of this Information Disclosure Statement was either previously cited by the Office or submitted in copending US. Patent Application No. 09/787,353 naming Richard C. Phelps et al. as inventors and filed June 12, 2001. Because the present application (i.e., U.S. Patent Application No. 10/827,356) relies on US. Patent Application No. 09/787,353 for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, copies of the documents listed on the attached PTO/SB-08 are not being provided herewith; see 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d)(1).

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The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following copending U.S. patent applications:

- 09/787,353 naming Richard C. PHELPS et al. as inventors and filed June 12, 2001;
- 10/827,359 naming Richard C. PHELPS et al. as inventors and filed April 20, 2004;
- 10/827,360 naming Richard C. PHELPS et al. as inventors and filed April 20, 2004;
and
- 10/827,361 naming Richard C. PHELPS et al. as inventors and filed April 20, 2004.

 In accordance with MPEP § 609HIC(2) (Rev. 2, May 2004, page 600-138), it is requested that the Office return a copy of this Information Disclosure Statement with the Examiner's initials adjacent to this paragraph indicating that these copending applications have been considered. By citation to the copending applications, confidentiality is not waived and the Office is requested to maintain the confidentiality of the copending applications under 35 U.S.C. § 122

This information is being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or statement is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement contains information that is not in the English language but was cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. In accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609A(3), an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted herewith.

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To assist the Examiner, the documents (except for the copending applications and search reports from counterpart foreign applications) are listed on the attached form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B. It is requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
Potomac Patent Group PLLC

Date: December 13, 2004

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2004.

Kenneth B. Leffler
Kenneth B. Leffler, Reg. No. 36,075

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/827,356
Filing Date	April 20, 2004
First Named Inventor	Richard C. PHELPS et al.
Art Unit	2111
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	0120-027

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 5,400,334 A	03-1995	Hayssen, Carl G.	
		US- 5,912,710 A	06-1999	Fujimoto, Akihisa	
		US- 5,986,644 A	11-1999	Herder et al.	
		US- 6,232,932 B1	05-2001	Thorner, Craig A	
		US- 5,541,932	07-30-1996	Nguyen et al.	
		US- 5,481,681	01-02-1996	Gallo et al.	
		US- 5,450,547	09-12-1995	Nguyen et al.	
		US- 5,375,215	12-20-1994	Hanawa et al.	
		US- 4,709,364	11-24-1987	Hasegawa et al.	
		US- 4,669,079	05-26-1987	Blum	
		US- 4,488,232	12-11-1984	Swaney et al.	
		US- 5,754,807	05-19-1998	Lambrecht et al.	
		US- 5,664,117	09-02-1997	Shah et al.	
		US- 5,627,976	05-06-1997	McFarland et al.	
		US- 5,619,661	04-08-1997	Crews et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP 0048869 A	04-07-1982			
		WO 80/01421 A	07-10-1980			
		EP 0384621 A2	08-29-1990			
		WO 89/02127 A1	03-09-1989			

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

